

VZCZCXRO9926
PP RUEHROV
DE RUEHKH #1936 2261622
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 141622Z AUG 06
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4146
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNIAD/IGAD COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHMFISS/CJTF HOA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 001936

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/13/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [AU](#) [US](#) [UN](#) [SU](#)
SUBJECT: CDA HUME'S MEETING WITH GNU AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE
JOHN UKEE LUETH

REF: KHARTOUM 01819

Classified By: P/E Chief E. Whitaker, Reason: Section 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (C) Summary: During an August 14 meeting, Charge Hume noted the importance of building the U.S.-Sudan relationship and permitting a transition to a UN peacekeeping operation in Darfur. Deciding not to do so would involve significant risks, as Sudan would be solely responsible for the consequences. Lueth pledged to work cooperatively, and noted the importance of the U.S. as a friend to the people of Sudan. He concurred that it is important to grasp the historic opportunity that lay ahead for both. End summary.

CDA Hume: Important to Advance Bilateral Relationship

12. (C) On August 14, Charge Hume met with John Ukee Lueth, the GNU's ambassador-designate to the U.S. (reftel). Hume noted President Bush's ongoing concern in Sudan, and underscored that the assistance levels the USG provided to the people of Sudan reflected our level of interest. At the same time, relations are not normalized, as both sides are represented by the charges d'affaires, and a series of sanctions remain in effect. Recent statements by First Vice President Salva Kiir raise questions as to whether or not Kiir wants these to be lifted. Lueth countered that he himself had worked for U.S. sanctions against Sudan during his 24 years in the U.S. Many in the GNU did not understand U.S. political processes, making it harder to turn the awkward bilateral situation around. Charge Hume said it was nonetheless important to move the bilateral relationship, to continue working together on the CPA and the DPA. He added that the Administration's policy was not to lift economic sanctions on the South, as SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum had wrongly stated, but to work at the national level to develop a more productive working relationship.

Hume: Sudan at Crossroads, Risks Consequences if no UN

13. (C) Charge Hume said that Sudan was at an important crossroads; the African Union cannot do its task successfully in Darfur, and the government is refusing to allow a transition to a UN peacekeeping operation. If this transition does not occur, the government risks being blamed for the consequences, which will likely be negative. Just as the U.S. had responded to Vice President Taha's requests for assistance in concluding the Darfur Peace Agreement, Sudan should take heed of the U.S. request for Sudan to permit the UN transition. The UNSC is negotiating the text of a resolution on Sudan, which it will adopt in perhaps 10 days. If Sudan elects not to permit a UN transition, Sudan will face the high risks involved on its own. These risks will

become greater as funds dry up for AMIS.

Lueth: U.S. a Great Friend of
Sudan; Grasp Opportunity

14. (C) Lueth recalled the relationship Sudan once enjoyed with Sudan, including at the time of his departure in 1982. He noted the U.S. had been a great friend of Sudan, and that it was important to grasp this opportunity to work together to deal with key issues. He said that he had been selected in part to develop a better U.S.-Sudan relationship) whether with SPLM or NCP officials. He mentioned being offered the post of Government of Southern Sudan Minister for SPLA Affairs, and added that he himself had trained John Garang and Salva Kiir when in the Sudanese army years ago.
HUME